



## WHO WE ARE

We are a small school by design. We provide a nurturing extension of your home, and a strong foundation in preparation for elementary school. Our staff knows every child and family member by name, so the children always feel how much they are loved and celebrated.

Our school sits in the shadow of St. John Church and students get to know our parish, priests and staff. As such, their religion and church feels as much a part of their lives as school and home.

We further enrich our curriculum with programs that explore themes of science, social studies, literacy, music, arts and community, including visits from storytellers, naturalists, plus Darien Fire Department, Police and Library.

Our Parents Association provides several events, including Mary's Baby Shower, Valentines for the Elderly, Parents Nights and more. SJPA also provides a valuable network of parents to support you and your child during the preschool years and beyond.



## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

St. John Preschool is a mission of St. John Roman Catholic Church and is licensed by the Connecticut Office of Early Childhood. Located in the parish center, the preschool is committed to modeling and teaching Christian morals and values, while creating a caring and safe environment that fosters curiosity and love for learning. It serves the community of Darien and surrounding towns. The school is open and welcoming to children of all faiths who are ages two through five. Two, three, four, and five-day programs are offered for preschool children.



ST. JOHN PRESCHOOL  
1986 Post Road - Darien CT 06820  
203.656.0548  
[www.StJohnPreschool.org](http://www.StJohnPreschool.org)



*Where Our Parish  
Family Grows*



*Creative Learning, Cooperative  
Play, and Unique Celebrations  
highlight a child's experience at  
St. John Preschool.*





# *Fostering knowledge, confidence, and faith within our children*



*As part of our curriculum, "Music Together" provides a weekly music and movement experience for each class.*

## Classes for Two through Five Year Old Children:

Morning Classes  
Extended Day  
Lunch Bunch

## Classroom Enrichment Programs Include:

Music Together  
Acting Out with Ms. Karen  
Animal Embassy  
Farmer Minor & Daisy the Pig  
Storytellers  
Fireman Bob  
Darien Library  
Exploration with Miss Lucy

*Curriculum developed in conjunction with  
Connecticut Early Learning and  
Development Standards.*

## OUR PHILOSOPHY

The program at St. John Preschool is designed to promote the emotional, social, spiritual, cognitive, and physical development of each child. We create a warm and accepting environment that contributes to the development of positive self-esteem as well as encouraging cooperation and interaction among children. We support the development of independence, self-reliance, and problem solving. Learning experiences are intentionally designed to stimulate creativity and encourage investigation.

Through play and directed learning experiences, we intentionally plan opportunities that support learning across all domains of development and are appropriate to each child's age, stage, and style of learning.

We believe that early school experiences represent a time when social interaction and play will stimulate creativity, exploration, and self-awareness. It is a time when children develop a sense of their own uniqueness and sets the stage for success in elementary school and beyond. Free from the pressures of workbooks and rote learning, we provide hands-on experiences and facilitate purposeful play.

Our pedagogy brings together varied approaches to education by design, drawing from Developmentally Appropriate Practice as well as child development theorists and research. We are committed to following best practice in the field of early education and remain aware of the constantly developing knowledge base that is available to us.

